

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CIVIL AIR ROUTE NEGOTIATIONS - MARCHAND PRESS CONFERENCE -

I

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TRANSPORT MINISTRY PRESS
STATEMENT RELEASED AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 11:

BEGIN TEXT

CANADA AND U.S.A. AGREE ON NEW AIR ROUTES AND PRECLEARANCE -

OTTAWA - TRANSPORT MINISTER JEAN MARCHAND TODAY
CONFIRMED THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED IN PRINCIPLE
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW AIR ROUTES AND PRE-
CLEARANCE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

"THE AGREEMENT WHICH WAS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY BY
THE HEADS OF THE CANADIAN AND U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAMS
WILL LEAD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF 46 NEW CANADIAN AND
U.S. AIR ROUTES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IT WILL ALSO
MAKE POSSIBLE A CANADIAN PRE-CLEARANCE PROGRAM IN THE
UNITED STATES AND PROVIDE FOR PRE-CLEARANCE FACILITIES
IN SEVERAL ADDITIONAL CANADIAN CITIES FOR U.S. BOUND
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TRAVELLERS," MR. MARCHAND STATED.

THE NEW BILATERAL AGREEMENT, PERHAPS THE LARGEST AND MOST COMPLEX IN WORLD CIVIL AVIATION HISTORY, REQUIRES RATIFICATION BY THE CABINET AND FORMAL SIGNING BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS BEFORE BEING IMPLEMENTED. IT HAS BEEN WORKED OUT IN TWELVE ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS AND EXPANDS AN AGREEMENT IN EFFECT SINCE JANUARY 17, 1966.

THE NEW AIR ROUTES WILL BE INTRODUCED OVER A "PHASING-IN" PERIOD SO THAT EXISTING MARKETS DEVELOPED BY THE AIRLINES WILL NOT BE ABRUPTLY DISTURBED WHILE AT THE SAME TIME AFFORDING THE AIRLINES OF BOTH COUNTRIES TO ACCOMMODATE THE IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE IS A PROVISION IN PRINCIPLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PRE-CLEARANCE FACILITIES BY CANADA IN THE U.S. FOR CANADA-BOUND TRAVELLERS AND FOR THE EXTENSION OF SUCH FACILITIES TO SERVE ADDITIONAL CANADIAN CITIES WHERE TRANSBORDER FLIGHTS TAKE PLACE.

THE US PRE-CLEARANCE PROGRAM NOW IN OPERATION IN MONTREAL, TORONTO, WINNIPEG AND VANCOUVER WILL CONTINUE. IT ALLOWS U.S. BOUND PASSENGERS TO PASS U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOM CONTROLS BEFORE BOARDING PLANES INSTEAD OF WHEN THEY ARRIVE AT THEIR DESTINATION. THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL ALLOW CANADIAN CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION OFFICERS TO EXAMINE CANADA BOUND TRAVELLERS IN THE U.S. SHOULD AIR CARRIERS WISH TO EXERCISE THIS OPTION.

THE NEW ROUTES AFFORDS THE AIRLINES OF BOTH COUNTRIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THE PHILOSOPHY OF CARRYING PASSENGERS FROM THEIR ORIGINATING POINT TO THEIR DESTINATION BY THE FASTEST AND MOST EFFICIENT MEANS POSSIBLE.

MR. MARCHAND INDICATED THAT THE DESIGNATION OF THE NEW CANADIAN ROUTES TO CANADIAN AIR CARRIERS WILL BE UNCLASSIFIED

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ANNOUNCED AFTER THE NEW AGREEMENT HAS BEEN FORMALLY RATIFIED BY THE U.S. AND CANADA.

THE EXISTING AND NEW ADDITIONAL ROUTES ARE SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE AND ROUTE MAPS.

END OF TEXT

2. ATTACHED TO MOT STATEMENT ARE LISTS OF PRESENT
AND NEW AIR ROUTES FOR BOTH CANADA AND THE UNITED
STATES AS WELL AS MAPS SHOWING ALL THESE ROUTES.
EMBASSY PERCEIVES NO NEED TRANSMIT THIS INFORMATION.
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